

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 008785
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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 008785

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PSDC, EG

SUBJECT:SECRETARY'S FAREWELL MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT SADAT

1. PLEASE DELIVER FOLLOWING PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM
SECRETARY TO PRESIDENT SADAT:

BEGIN QUOTE:

2. DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: AS I COME TO THE CLOSING DAYS
OF MY TERM OF OFFICE, THERE IS NOTHING I RECALL WITH GREATER
WARMTH THAN MY ASSOCIATION AND FRIENDSHIP WITH YOU. FROM
THE OUTSET, WHEN YOU AND I FIRST MADE CONTACT I HAVE BEEN
ENCOURAGED AND SUSTAINED BY YOUR VISION OF WHAT IS POSSIBLE
AND WHAT IS NECESSARY IN THE PURSUIT OF PEACE IN THE
MIDDLE EAST.

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3. OUR FIRST MEETING AND TALKS TOGETHER REPRESENT IN MY
MIND AN UNFORGETTABLE MILESTONE, RECALLING AS I DO THAT
MOMENT OF INTUITIVE RECOGNITION OF WHAT WE COULD ACCOMPLISH
TOGETHER. IT SEEMED THEN, AS IT DOES NOW, THAT WE COULD
TALK AND THINK TOGETHER LIKE OLD FRIENDS. SUCH AN
IMMEDIATE RAPPORT, PROVIDING AS IT HAS DONE SUCH EASE OF

COMMUNICATION, HAS IMMENSELY ENHANCED THE ABILITY OF OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS TO SEE THINGS IN THE SAME LONG-TERM PERSPECTIVE.

4. IN THIS PROCESS YOU VERY EARLY MADE A DECISION TO TRUST US, AND I NOTE THAT IN RECENT WEEKS YOU HAVE BEEN GRACIOUS ENOUGH TO RENEW EXPRESSIONS OF THAT TRUST IN TALKING WITH VISITORS TO CAIRO. YOUR DECISION HAS BEEN WITHOUT DOUBT THE ESSENTIAL INGREDIENT IN WHAT WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO ACCOMPLISH TOGETHER THUS FAR.

5. ONE OF THE MOST CONSPICUOUS FRUITS OF THAT RELATIONSHIP OF MUTUAL TRUST HAS BEEN THE HISTORIC STRATEGY THAT YOU UNDERTOOK IN GIVING PRACTICAL EFFECT TO YOUR CONVICTION THAT EGYPT'S LONG TERM INTERESTS COULD BEST BE SERVED BY TIGHTENING THE BONDS OF FRIENDSHIP WITH THE UNITED STATES AND OUR EUROPEAN ALLIES. MY OWN PARTICIPATION IN MARSHALLING THE UNITED STATES' RESPONSE TO YOUR DECISION HAS GIVEN ME AS MUCH SATISFACTION AS ANYTHING I HAVE DONE IN THESE EVENTFUL YEARS.

6. OBVIOUSLY I COULD NOT HAVE PLAYED MY PART IN ORGANIZING THE AMERICAN RESPONSE IF THE IMPACT OF YOUR VISION AND YOUR RESOLVE HAD BEEN MADE ON ME ALONE. TWO PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES HAVE MET WITH YOU AND HAVE DRAWN THE SAME STRENGTH OF CONVICTION. SCORES OF MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESS HAVE HAD THE SAME PRIVILEGE. THE AMERICAN PEOPLE HAVE COME TO UNDERSTAND AND APPRECIATE THE INDIS-

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PENSABLE ROLE THAT YOU ARE CARRYING OUT. THIS NATIONAL ESTEEM WAS DRAMATICALLY REINFORCED BY YOUR HISTORIC STATE VISIT HERE IN 1975. FOR ME AND MY FELLOW AMERICANS IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO IMAGINE WHAT THE COURSE OF EVENTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST MIGHT HAVE BEEN IF DESTINY HAD NOT BROUGHT YOU TO THE LEADERSHIP OF EGYPT AND THE ARAB WORLD AT THIS PARTICULAR HOUR OF HISTORY.

7. THIS AWARENESS OF DEEP AND SOLID FRIENDSHIP IS SOMETHING THAT MY COLLEAGUES AND I WEIGH PROFOUNDLY AS WE REFLECT ON WHERE WE HAVE COME TOGETHER AND WHAT THE OPPORTUNITIES ARE FOR THE FUTURE.

8. WITHIN A FEW DAYS MY SUCCESSOR WILL BE TAKING ON THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR PURSUING THE GOAL OF PEACE TO WHICH ALL AMERICANS ARE COMMITTED. AS FOR MYSELF I LOOK FORWARD TO THE FREEDOM TO REFLECT ON THE LONG VIEW OF HISTORY. I HAVE LEARNED MUCH FROM YOU, MR. PRESIDENT, WHO INSTINCTIVELY AND COURAGEOUSLY TOOK THE LONG VIEW, FROM THE TIME

YOU ASSUMED THE LEADERSHIP OF YOUR PEOPLE SIX YEARS AGO.

9. I CANNOT DISGUISE SOME FEELING OF REGRET THAT I SHALL NOT HAVE OFFICIAL OCCASION TO WORK AGAIN SO DIRECTLY WITH YOU AS I DID IN THE MANY PRODUCTIVE HOURS AND WEEKS THAT WE WERE TOGETHER IN THE YEARS JUST PAST. EVEN SO, I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT I WILL DO EVERYTHING I CAN TO HELP MY SUCCESSOR AND OUR NEW PRESIDENT IN MOVING AHEAD TOWARD THE GOALS THAT EGYPTIANS AND AMERICANS SEEK AND TO WHICH BOTH OUR GOVERNMENTS ARE FIRMLY COMMITTED.

10. YOU CAN BE SURE THAT NANCY AND I WILL NOT TARRY WHEN THE OPPORTUNITY COMES AGAIN FOR US TO VISIT WITH YOU AND MRS. SADAT AND REFRESH THE BONDS OF PERSONAL ADMIRATION AND FRIENDSHIP FOR BOTH OF YOU THAT WILL SUSTAIN US IN THE YEARS AHEAD. YOU WILL BOTH ALWAYS HAVE A SPECIAL PLACE IN OUR HEARTS, AND WE WISH THE HAPPIEST OF FUTURES
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TO YOU AND PEACE AND PROSPERITY TO YOUR PEOPLE.

11. WITH WARMEST AND MOST RESPECTFUL REGARDS ALWAYS,
HENRY A. KISSINGER. END QUOTE.
KISSINGER

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